

SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS **Veteran of the Month Prayer Card**

April 2024

Mike Norris



US ARMY: 1988 - 2012

Mike grew up in McColl, SC. He started his Army career as a Private E-1 as a Chemical Operations Specialist, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant and serving as a Senior Drill Sergeant at Fort Leonard Wood, MO before his selection to attend the U.S. Army's Officer Candidates School at Fort Benning, GA. He graduated in June 2002, as a Distinguished Military Graduate, commissioning as a Field Artillery 2nd Lieutenant. Mike is most proud of his almost 10 years of service with the famous 82nd Airborne Division as a Paratrooper and Jumpmaster. Mike holds numerous awards and decorations for meritorious combat and job performance, includes two Bronze Stars. He also holds Masters of Arts Degrees in Management & Leadership and Human Resources Management from Webster University, Walker School of Business & Technology, Jacksonville, FL.

Mike served four tours of duty in Iraq, which spanned from Desert Storm/Shield in 1990 to Operation New Dawn in 2011. He successfully planned and executed over 250 patrols, raids, as well as, cordon and search operations without loss of, or serious injury to, any of his Soldiers or Teammates. In 2006, the Norris family moved from Oklahoma to Palm Coast. In 2012, Mike retired from the Army, as a Captain, after more than 24 years of service.

After the military Mike worked at various locations and positions from a U.S. Department of Defense contractor, as a Staff Development Instructor, to an Antiterrorism and Critical Infrastructure Protection Officer, while serving as a federal civil servant. Mike's last assignment, before hanging up his spurs in 2020, was as the Physical Security Supervisor for the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA.

Mike is a small business owner here in the city, operating Palm Coast Pressure Washing and Paint. Mike and his wife Tracey have been members of SOTC for 12 years and will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary on April 24. They have been blessed with two sons, Christian and Sean. Mike is an avid fisherman, gardener, and enjoys traveling - when Tracey makes him. Mike is currently a candidate for Mayor of Palm Coast in the upcoming election.